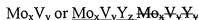


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph A) on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

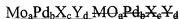
A) a calcined catalyst represented by the formula:



[wherein Y can be one or more metals of Li, Na, Be, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba, Zn, Cd, Hg, Sc, Y, La, Ce, Al, Ti, Zr, Hf, Pb, Nb, Ta, As, Sb, Bi, Cr, W, U, Te, Fe, Co and Ni, x is 0.5 to 0.9, y is 0.1 to 0.4, and z is 0.001 to 1], and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 of page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

International Publication No. 99/20592 (Patent Document 10), pamphlet, discloses a process of selectively producing acetic acid in a high temperature region from ethane, ethylene or a mixture thereof and oxygen in the presence of a catalyst represented by the formula:



[wherein X represents one or multiple members of Cr, Mn, Nb, Ta, Ti, V, Te and W; Y represents one or multiple members of B, Al, Ga, In, Pt, Zn, Cd, Bi, Ce, Co, Rh, Ir, Cu, Ag, Au, Fe, Ru, Os, K, Rb, Cs, Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba, Nb, Zr, Hf, Ni, P, Pb, Sb, Si, Sn, Tl and U; a=1, b=0.0001 to 0.01, c=0.4 to 1, and d=0.005 to 1].

Please replace paragraph [6] on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

[6] A process for producing a catalyst for the production of an oxygen-containing compound, which is a process of producing the catalyst for the production of an oxygen-

containing compound according to any one of [1] to [5], said process comprising the following first and second steps:

First Step:

a step of causing a tungsten compound and a zirconium compound to coexist and heat-treating these compounds to produce a compound represented by the following formula:



[wherein a is a W/Zr molar ratio, and $x-y$ is a value defined by the oxidized state of tungsten (W); and zirconium (Zr) and palladium (Pd)];

Second Step:

a step of loading palladium compound on the compound W_aZrO_y obtained in the first step to obtain a catalyst for the production of an oxygen-containing compound.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 28 of page 9 with the following amended paragraph:

The compositional ratio of constituent elements of tungsten-zirconium (W_aZrO_y) is not limited. In the formula, a is a W/Zr molar ratio, and $x-y$ is a value defined by the oxidized state of tungsten, and zirconium and palladium. The tungsten/zirconium (W/Zr) ratio is preferably, in terms of the molar ratio, from 0.01 to 5, more preferably from 0.02 to 3, still more preferably from 0.05 to 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 33 of page 11 with the following amended paragraph:

a step of loading palladium on the compound W_aZrO_y obtained in the first step to obtain a catalyst for the production of an oxygen-containing compound.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 30 of page 13 with the following amended paragraph:

The second step of the present invention (II) is a step of loading palladium compound on W_aZrO_y obtained in the first step to obtain a catalyst (Pd/W_aZrO_x) for the production of an oxygen-containing compound. Herein, in general, $x=yX=Y$, but x may be different from y.

Please replace line 13 of page 18 with the following amended line:

[Examples 6 to 8]~~[Examples 6 to 10]~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 of page 19 with the following amended paragraph:

Catalysts 1 to ~~8~~9 for Production of Acetic Acid obtained in Examples 1 to ~~8~~9 and Catalysts 9 to 11 ~~4 to 3~~ for Production of Acetic Acid obtained in Comparative Examples 1 to 3 each in 2 ml was packed in an SUS316-made reaction tube (inner diameter: 10 mm) and for the reduction of palladium chloride pretreatment, a mixed gas of hydrogen : helium = 1:1 was passed at 300°C and 60 ml/min for 1 hour.